

**Media Contact**

Isolde Davidson
303 E. Palm Lane, Phoenix, 85004
(602) 257-4200 ext. 104
isidavidson@maricopabar.org
www.maricopabar.org

Ten County Legal Notables Selected for 2012 Maricopa County Bar Hall of Fame

(Phoenix, AZ – Oct. 17, 2012) - Ten extraordinary lawyers and judges comprise the 2012 Class of inductees to the Maricopa County Bar Hall of Fame. Eight are from the modern era and two, whose main accomplishments occurred before 1964, were selected for the pioneer category.

Modern era: Hon. Rebecca White Berch, Walter Cheifetz, Hon. Robert L. Gottsfield, Hon. Michael Daly Hawkins, William R. Jones, Jr., Alan A. Matheson, Hon. Janet Napolitano, and Robert Pickrell

Pioneer era: Hon. Ernest McFarland and Jubal Early Craig

The 10 inductees will be honored on Oct. 30 at the MCBA's Annual Meeting/Hall of Fame Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix. Registration for this event is available at www.maricopabar.org or by calling Bree at (602) 257-4200.

Background of the inductees:

Hon. Rebecca White Berch is the third woman in Arizona history to serve as the chief justice of the Arizona Supreme Court. She received B.S., M.A. and J.D. degrees from Arizona State University. Her career has been one of stellar public service as a professor of law, a lawyer and member of the bar, the state's solicitor general, an appellate court judge and the state Supreme Court.

Walter Cheifetz - From humble beginnings, Cheifetz, a graduate of the University of Arizona College of Law, became one of the preeminent trial attorneys in the Southwest, a significant contributor to the success to the firm of Lewis and Roca, and a pro bono advocate to the elderly.

Hon. Robert L. Gottsfield - He received his undergraduate degree at ASU and his JD from Cornell and was a judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court from 1980-2005. Though 70 at retirement, he has continued to serve full-time as a pro tem judge and is a prolific author of legal articles and books on the law.

Hon. Michael Daly Hawkins - A third generation native Arizonan, Judge Hawkins sits on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He served in the Marine Corp, 1970-1973, and as president of the Maricopa County Bar Association in 1987-88. A highly respected attorney and judge, he became the highest ASU College of Law governmental appointee until he was joined by his colleague Judge Barry Silverman in 1998.

(Continued)

William R. Jones, Jr. – Presently at Jones, Skelton & Hochuli, Jones is a highly respected and successful lawyer, who has tried in excess of 250 civil jury cases in Arizona and other states. In 1968-69, he assisted in writing a total revision of the Arizona workers' compensation law and was the first chair of the Workers' Compensation Committee of the State Bar of Arizona.

Alan A. Matheson – Now the Dean Emeritus of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at ASU, Matheson has been a leader of the college since its beginning in 1967. He is known as an influential administrative leader and a beloved teacher. He also compiled a remarkable record of service to the bar, the community and the legal profession.

Hon. Janet Napolitano - After practicing with the firm of Lewis and Roca, Napolitano entered the public stage in 1991 by serving as attorney for Anita Hill before the U.S. Senate. In 1993 she was appointed U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona and later won the office of Arizona attorney general. She served as a Democratic governor of Arizona from 2002 until 2008, when she was confirmed as U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security.

Hon. Robert "Bob" W. Pickrell – An Arizona native and University of Arizona law graduate, Judge Pickrell served in France and Italy during WWII. In addition to his private practice, Judge Pickrell served as attorney general of Arizona from 1961-65 and was a judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court from 1974-1991. Throughout his career he devoted himself to pro bono legal services and assistance to the indigent.

Hon. Ernest McFarland – Known as the "Father of the G.I. Bill," he served as a Democratic U.S. Senator for Arizona from 1941-53, was minority leader for two years, was the 10th governor of Arizona in 1955-59, and was chief justice of the Arizona Supreme Court in 1968. He is the only Arizonan to serve in the highest office in all three branches of Arizona government—two at the state level and one at the federal level.

Jubal Early Craig –Born in 1874 and living for almost 100 years, Craig was one of the earliest members of the firm now known as Fennemore Craig, one of the 250 largest law firms in the U.S. and one of the oldest in Arizona. He was instrumental in establishing the State Bar of Arizona in the 1930s, contributed to the writing of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and helped form the Maricopa County Legal Aid Society.

About the Hall of Fame - The Maricopa County Bar Hall of Fame was created in 2008 by the MCBA to recognize the outstanding lawyers and judges who are or were true giants of the profession, primarily in Maricopa County.

Inductees were selected based on criteria which includes: practiced at least for 10 years; played prominent and important roles that have had an impact on the history and development of our local bar and the legal profession; made significant or unique contributions to the law or the administration of justice; and/or demonstrated significant leadership, advocacy and accomplishments in service to the community or the profession.

Members of the 2012 Hall of Fame Selection Committee are Hon. Glenn Davis, chair, Hon. Rebecca Albrecht, Hon. Louis Araneta, Jennifer A. Cranston, Mark Harrison, William F. Haug, Joseph E. McGarry, Jerry Lewkowitz, Hon. Cecil B. Patterson, Jr., Kenneth J. Sherk, Gary Stuart, Hon. Ann S. Timmer, Ted F. Warner, and Stan Watts.